

## **SCVR Minutes**

March 12, 2007

Four Points by Sheraton

Lexington, KY

### **Members Present**

Joseph Carrico, Lisa Durham, Dana Haugsted, Ann Holstein, Nancy Hunter, Darrell Mattingly, Kathryn McGee, Martina Netherton, John Reisenberg, Mike Sanders, Vicki Staggs, Judith Swim, George Warren, and Teresa Winkler

### **Members Absent**

Tammy Allen, Jane Burnam, Doris Haney, John L. Jones, Rhonda Logsdon, Ann Mullins, Terry Shockley, and Juanita Westerfield

### **Staff Present**

Ralph Clark, Sherri Greer, Holly Hendricks, Dave Matheis, Barry Newill, Nanci Shelden, Greg Willett, and Mindy Yates.

### **Guests Present**

Judy Gooch, Interpreter; Tom King, Interpreter; Laura Kogut, Captioner

Darrell Mattingly welcomed everyone to the Council and introductions were made.

### **Executive Director Report & Agency Issues**

Ralph Clark began by discussing several staff changes that would be taking place in the near future. The responsibility of the Statewide Council for Vocational Rehabilitation (SCVR) will become that of the Program, Planning and Development (PPD) branch. A description of the PPD branch was provided to each council member. Ralph continued to report that the constituent from the December meeting had expressed some concerns regarding the policies and procedures of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR). The concerns were presented to the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) and their responses were provided to the council members as well. Ralph also reported that the Carl D. Perkins Comprehensive Rehabilitation Center (CDPCRC) had previously requested a name change and a bill was before the general assembly (since passed) to change the name from CDPCRC to the Carl D. Perkins Vocational Training Center (CDPVTC). Furthermore, he stated that OVR supports HB 418 which concerns the state retirement system. The reason for the support of the bill is because it extends a window for retirement for current employees, decreasing the possibility of a mass exodus of employees by the end of 2008. Recruitment issues may be a problem in the future due to the fact that future employees will have fewer benefits than current employees. This may also affect OVR's budget as well. Ralph took the opportunity to praise the agency for completing the first round of the Academy for Leadership Exploration and Preparedness (A-LEAP). Ralph provided a brief description about the program and the benefits of the program. He stressed that some very critical positions will need to be filled within the agency due to retirement and transfers and feels that A-LEAP will be a great opportunity for staff to become potential leaders. Ralph concluded by thanking Darrell Mattingly, Kathryn McGee, and George Warren for serving on the council as their terms will expire in May.

Darrell Mattingly, chairperson informed the Council the Executive Committee would go into further detail about responses to the constituent's concerns later in the meeting. Darrell emphasized numbers two and five of the responses. Darrell assigned number five to the Policy and Planning committee and number two to the Consumer Satisfaction and Evaluation committee.

The Council broke out into their committees.

David Allgood provided a presentation on Self-Advocacy and it was well received by the Council.

Dana Haugsted, council member, reported on the Eligibility and Substance Abuse training she recently attended in February. The presentation was well received by the Council. Sherri Greer, director of Program Services, suggested that the Council write a letter commending the staff on their participation in the Eligibility and Substance Abuse training.

### **Business Meeting**

Darrell called the meeting to order at 1:24.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Motion to approve minutes made by George Warren. Lee Gordon second. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Chair Report**

Darrell Mattingly informed the Council that there will be a new SCVR Liaison and Support Staff person at the June meeting. Darrell continued to say that the Council is still awaiting appointments from the Governor's Office. Ralph Clark expressed that he feels good about the re-appointments; however, he has not heard anything regarding WIA rep. Darrell stressed to the Council the importance of a WIA representative on the council. He also informed the Council that Terry Shockley, Joseph Carrico, Lee Gordon, George Warren, and himself attended the 874K event. Darrell Mattingly concluded by explaining that elections will be held and there will be a new Executive Committee by the end of the day.

### **Budget and Administrative Services Report**

Mindy Yates briefly discussed staff training which would occur regarding work incentives and social security reimbursement in the next coming months. She continued to explain the new computer system (CMS) and how the new system will now be 508 compliant. Mindy also explained that there would be training for new assistants some time in the fall and briefly explained the TRACKS process to the Council.

### **Staff Report**

Mindy Yates began by discussing the role OVR staff had in the implementation of the 874K Advocacy Event. Mindy was pleased to report that the Annual Report has been completed and was approved two weeks ago and sent off for printing. By the June meeting, the Annual Report should be ready to view by the Council. Mindy reported that the letters for support of the minimum wage bill were written and sent to legislators. There were two Executive Committee meetings and an Interagency Coordinating Committee (ICC) meeting since the last SCVR meeting in December. The implementation of the OVR online newsletter has not been established. However, OVR

staff is working to complete the goal. Mindy stated that the budget portion of the performance evaluation was removed, something about which the Council had expressed concern. She concluded by informing the Council that re-appointments/appointments have been sent to the Governor's Office.

### **CAP, SILC, CDPVTC, and Committee Reports**

Barry Newill, CDPVTC Director, began by discussing the Center's new brochure and informed the staff he will be sending the brochures to all OVR offices for distribution to serious clients. Barry was pleased to inform the Council that the new roof should be finished in June and graduation will be held June 15<sup>th</sup>. Barry invited all council members.

Vicki Staggs provided the Client Assistance Program (CAP) report. She began by saying CAP was able to close out old cases and said there have been more and more cases calling for bariatric bypass surgery and other cosmetic surgery. She informed the group that CAP's caseload has decreased and staff are seeing more resolutions.

Darrell Mattingly provided the group with the Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) report. He announced the next SILC meeting will be held on March 13, 2007. He also announced that SILC is still waiting on appointments. Darrell mentioned SILC forums are being held in Hazard, Carrollton, Murray, Glasgow, and Owensboro, Danville, Morehead. Darrell also announced that SILC would be planning an Independent Living conference in August and that more information will be available in the near future.

### **Executive Committee Meeting**

Darrell Mattingly discussed the constituent's comments from the meeting in December and said he agreed with most of them. The Council will be receiving the Executive Committee's comments when they are written up. Darrell concluded by informing the Council that the Executive Committee had asked OVR to put out a list serve of state agencies to see what other agencies are doing concerning peer mentoring.

### **PAL Committee**

Teresa Winkler began by discussing the 874K brunch and said it was well received by all. The committee suggested a motion to write a letter to the legislators which thanked them for their attendance at the 874K event. Another motion was also suggested that OVR provide talking points to the Council regarding Medicaid Buy-In so council members could contact their legislator about the issue. Also, OVR should post a link to the Internet site to data which supports the issue. Dana Haugsted seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Discussion turned to marketing to professionals regarding Vocational Rehabilitation. Teresa reported that the committee feels that marketing should begin with post-secondary facilities, transition, and to physician/psychologists. The committee will research this and in June, will come back with their ideas about marketing to professionals. Teresa asked the Council to help with ideas and/or suggestions and the committee suggested including information regarding the Council into the Consumer Handbook in order to reach OVR consumers. This would be a great opportunity for consumers to give back.

Motion to write letter to Legislators and Gubernatorial Candidates thanking them for attending the 874K event. No discussion was offered.. Darrell Mattingly entertained a motion to end discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to ask OVR to provide talking points to the Council regarding Medicaid Buy-In for council members to contact their legislator about the issue. Also, post a link on the OVR Internet site to data which supports the issue. No discussion was offered. Darrell Mattingly entertained a motion to end discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to have SCVR information included in the consumer handbook. No discussion was offered. Motion to close discussion made by Teresa Winkler, second by Nancy Hunter. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Policy and Planning**

Ann Holstein reported that the committee discussed impending staff and resource limitations for Vocational Rehabilitation in the future. Motion made by Lisa Durham and seconded by Mike Sanders that the agency perform a cost-benefit analysis of how technology, particularly computer technology, can be used to do more with fewer resources in the future. No discussion was offered. Motion carried unanimously. Ann Holstein further discussed gastric bypass surgery and expressed some concerns regarding this matter. Greg Willett noted that Allison Jessee and Charles Puckett would be the people to contact regarding this matter. Motion made by Lisa Durham and seconded by Mike Sanders that the staff develop a method for providing truly anonymous e-mail input to the state plan. No discussion was offered. Motion to close discussion. Motion carried.

### **Consumer Evaluation**

George Warren reported to the full Council that the committee reviewed the draft of the 2006 Consumer Satisfaction Survey results and there were a few questions about the draft. He continued by informing the Council that the committee discussed focus groups. Kathy Sheppard-Jones will be conducting the focus groups in the near future and the groups will consist of five to ten individuals and will take place at the Independent Living Centers (ILC). Ten questions are to be used and given to Kathy. The topics and individual questions will be decided by OVR staff and Kathy. The individuals will be those consumers that have not had successful closures. George concluded that the committee hopes to provide the Council with this information in the future.

### **ICC**

Lee Gordon provided the Council with a brief report regarding the previous March 6<sup>th</sup> ICC meeting. He informed the Council that he provided a presentation on the Commission for Children with Special Healthcare Needs. Lee concluded by announcing that the next meeting will be held on June 5<sup>th</sup> in Frankfort, KY and Brad Mills will be the guest speaker on the subject of Transition.

### **Old Business**

Teresa Winkler made a motion the Council send a letter to the staff based on Dana Haugsted's observation in recognizing the staff's dedication and enthusiasm during the Substance Abuse Policy and Eligibility Training. Lee Gordon seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

### **New Business**

Dana Haugsted made a motion that all staff should attend a statewide training at least once a year. Vicki Staggs seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Lee Gordon made a motion that all Council members attend the June meeting to recognize staff and council members that are rotating off the Council. Nancy Hunter seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Election of Officers**

Motion to elect Lee Gordon as chairperson by George Warren, Nancy and Teresa seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to elect Nancy Hunter as co-chairperson by Vicki Staggs, Teresa Winkler seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to elect Dana Haugsted as Member at Large by Teresa Winkler, Vicki Staggs seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Next Meeting Date**

June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2007 - 9:00 - Lexington, KY – Four Points by Sheraton

**Meeting Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn by Teresa Winkler, seconded by Nancy Hunter. Motion carried unanimously.